

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-16 and 19-23 remain pending in the application.

This Request for Continued Examination (RCE) application is submitted in an abundance of caution simply to place references before the Examiner for consideration. The references are referred to in the Information Disclosure Statement presented herewith.

We are also attaching **copies** of Supplemental Information Disclosure Statements and PTO-1449s which were filed on 4/15/03, 7/30/03 and 9/2/03. Applicant has never received an initialed copy of these PTO-1449s, and respectfully requests the Examiner to initial these references and return a copy of these PTO-1449s with the Examiner's next Action.

Examination of claims 1-4, 7-16 and 19-23 is requested.

Dated: _____

1/14/04

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____



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Encl.: Copy of 4/15/03, 7/30/03 and 9/2/03 Supp. IDS' and 1449s for initialing'